

The Seattle Juvenile
Court Report
for 1922

JANUARY 1, 1923
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
200 BROADWAY

THE
SEATTLE JUVENILE COURT
REPORT *for the* YEAR
1922

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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
200 BROADWAY

PERSONNEL OF STAFF

The Court

HONORABLE KING DYKEMAN, *Judge*

KATE NYE, *Clerk*

Investigation and Probation Department

HAROLD K. VANN,* *Chief Probation Officer*

GLADYS SCHUSTER, *Secretary*

FLORENCE BALL, *Investigator*

MARTHA CASTBERG, *Probation Officer*

JANET DONALDSON, *Probation Officer*

P. V. MILLER, *Probation Officer*

RUTH STOUT, *Stenographer*

DR. LILLIAN C. IRWIN, *Medical Examiner for Girls*

DR. STEVENSON SMITH, *Consulting Psychologist*

Detention Home

FRANCETTE P. MARING,

Superintendent and Assistant to Judge in Girl Cases

ANNA NAERENTS, *Boys' Attendant*

MINNIE G. MCOMBER, *Girls' Attendant*

HELEN E. MARING, *Night Assistant*

LOUISE MCKEE, *Kitchen Attendant*

LUELLA COE, *School Teacher*

C. S. WOOD, *Building Attendant*

Mothers' Pension Department

LENA E. HEMPHILL, *Commissioner*

VIOLET STOUT, *Secretary*

JOSEPHINE PORTER, *Investigator*

BESSIE MAYNARD, *Visitor*

EMILY CURRY, *Visitor*

*RESIGNED

A STATEMENT BY THE JUDGE

THE reports of the Juvenile Court from year to year show to some extent the activities of those interested in child welfare. This is especially true as pertains to the so-called delinquent child and the child whose environment is such that the protection of the Court becomes necessary in order to safe-guard its future. Inasmuch as only a few people are cognizant of the aim, scope, and methods of the Juvenile Court, a brief outline of the procedure may be of interest, not only to the average person but also to the social worker here and elsewhere, for while the fundamentals are essentially the same throughout the nation yet every state and even different counties in the same state vary greatly in the laws visible interpretation.

In King County the Court has jurisdiction over all dependent and delinquent cases coming to the Court under the age of 18 and where the child has been made a ward before 18 the Court retains jurisdiction until 21. The marriage of a child does not change the status of the ward. An interesting decision has been recently made by the State Attorney General which may mean that if a child is made a ward of the Court before reaching the age of 18 his commitment to a state school for delinquents is valid even if made after the 18th birthday.

It is the custom to have all cases of children needing the Court's attention reported to the Chief Probation Officer at 200 Broadway. These cases come from the Woman's and Juvenile Division of the Police Department, Sheriff's Office, Special Officers, the Attendance Departments of City and County Schools and various welfare agencies such as the Washington Children's Home Society, Public Welfare Department and Social Welfare League, also parents, citizens and in some cases from the child itself. These reports are

segregated, some being referred to other agencies or jurisdictions and many being adjudicated in the office by a conference of those interested and a mutual satisfactory solution being attained.

In dealing with delinquent girl cases the co-operation of Mrs. Francette P. Maring, Assistant to the Judge in girl cases, is obtained in reviewing the complaint and advising with the child. Often a pre-investigation is made outside of the Department to verify the substance of a report before deciding its merits. The astonishing number of foreign, trivial and unnecessary matters reported to the Court make the "clearing house" method necessary in order to assist the community in every way possible and yet to properly place responsibilities. If the case is of such a nature that formal Court action is deemed best, the case is placed on the calendar by the Court Clerk, Notice and Summons is served on the parents or guardian and the matter is taken up by the Investigator. She interviews all parties concerned including the child, obtains the child's motive and feeling, learns all previous history and school records which may enlighten and finds the various factors entering into the situation with a possible solution. Both mental and physical examinations are made whenever thought necessary. All of this data together with the child's age, religion, family relation and school grade is compiled in a typewritten report which the Judge has before him when the case is called and which enables him at a glance to grasp the trouble and the need. The Court hearings are extremely informal, a small private Court room being reserved for the family and the Court attendants, no others being admitted without receiving permission from the Judge or the Chief Probation Officer. The hearings are of a most friendly nature, the child and parents being permitted to speak freely and the various assisting representatives from the School or other co-operating agencies being allowed to join in the discussion of the difficult problem so as to obtain the best results. At this time the Court may send the child to a public, semi-public or private institution; the child may be released to its parents with or without supervision; or placed in a

suitable private home under supervision; or the case may be dismissed or continued subject to further order of the Court. The institutions used can be learned from the statistics following. If placed under supervision the child is kept in touch with in a firm yet kindly parental manner, the thought being to so advise, assist and protect all concerned that the faults and mistakes can be eliminated and the condition so improved that supervision can be safely discontinued. This protection to the child may mean bringing the child back to the Court and even a commitment to an institution but still there is no thought of retributive justice or punitive discipline but rather an attempt to fill the child's need of daily constant oversight and instruction so that existing faults may be corrected and the child be built up into a stable law abiding citizen, an asset rather than a liability to the community.

The diagnostic study of delinquents will be resumed at the return of Dr. Lilburn Merrill to the court staff during the ensuing year.

The arrangement of the Court building with the Probation Department, the Mothers' Pension Department and the Detention Home under the same roof, and the establishment of the building away from the crowded business section, gives to the work of the Court the close home harmony which is reflected in the handling of the children and their disposition.

The statistics for 1922 show an increase of 300 cases, 150 being dependent cases and 141 cases of delinquency. The largest increase in dependency matters comes under the head of Inadequate Moral Guardianship. The increase in delinquency is found in the boys cases, for while the girls show 23 more runaways, there is a dropping off in sex troubles of 29 and a decrease of 10 in truancy, the total figures showing seven less cases than in the year previous. The figures for the boys show an increase of 60 in disorderly conduct and 56 in traffic violation. Then comes dishonesty, runaways and truancy with slight increases. Students of conditions will ask why this increase. The Juvenile Court is being utilized more and

more to settle home and community problems. Many types of cases which were formerly borne with, over-looked or settled in the wood shed are now brought to the Court. Sometimes parents and neighbors show a tendency to shift the responsibility and yet in many cases this coming to the Court means a real desire to obtain assistance in time rather than to wait until a mistake or misunderstanding has become a vicious habit. Therefore we find cases which formerly were allowed to drift now coming to the Court as a preventive measure.

It is very encouraging to note at this time that while the number of cases has increased the number of repeaters for the last year was lower than in any year previous.

The work of supervision has increased steadily. The number of wards placed under supervision in 1919 was 166. Last year the number was 280 with no material increase in the office staff during that time; the need now is self-evident.

The commitments to institutions as shown in the statistics give the following increases for 1922 over 1921: 31 in the number of boys sent to the Parental School; six more boys and four more girls to the State Training School; 13 in the number of girls sent to the Ruth School and 15 in those sent to the House of the Good Shepherd. There were also three more boys and nine more girls sent to the State Custodial School. There was a total of 31 commitments to the Custodial School but this is only a small part of the total number whose mental condition is such that they are in need of custodial care. The records of the Detention Home show 187 more children given shelter or detained but a lower percentage for the average period of detention.

The figures for the Mothers' Pension Department as found elsewhere in this report show also an increase in that work. The Court Clerk's report reveals that during 1922 \$12,776 was paid into the registry of the Court by parents toward the maintenance of wards in homes and institutions. In the presentation of cases the

Police agencies come first with 927 cases, an increase of 209 over 1922 and the School Attendance Department is second with 221 cases, an increase of 42. The tabulation of ages shows that 194 out of the 225 delinquent girls came in between 14 and 17. The largest number for one age 66 coming in at 15. The same comparison holds true for the delinquent boys 66 out of 913 coming between 14 and 17 and the largest number 179 being 15 years of age.

The Court still feels the need of an institution for the safeguarding of that group of defectives ranging between the limitations of the State Custodial School and the Parental Schools. At this time there is a waiting list constantly growing for admission to the State Custodial School but owing to the crowded conditions at the school these children can be received only one at a time as a vacancy occurs and then King County must share its rights with other Counties. These are legitimate cases for the State Custodial School but in no event is there any provision made for the group spoken of above. It is hoped that an institution for the feeble-minded may soon be established west of the Cascades.

The Court has had splendid co-operation from all the agencies in the community and the work of the Court has been lighter and better because of this mutual assistance. The Court staff has at all times given their very best to the work and the spirit dominating throughout the Department is one of unselfish endeavor for the promotion of the child's highest interests.

KING DYKEMAN,
JUDGE.

JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT DURING NINE YEARS AND COUNTY SCHOOL POPULATION RATIO.

Year	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922
Delinquent boys..	639	567	536	443	335	503	841	765	913
Delinquent girls..	158	133	81	108	105	115	145	232	225
Dependent boys..	230	252	241	149	90	146	221	179	188
Dependent girls..	220	223	229	122	113	133	224	169	319
Totals.....	1,247	1,184	1,087	822	643	897	1,431	1,345	1,645
*County School Census.....	61,755	65,063	63,936	67,051	77,660	84,760	86,515	86,269	86,622
Ratio.....	1:50	1:54	1:58	1:81	1:21	1:94	1:65	1:43	1:53

* The school census, which includes all children between the ages of four and twenty-one years, nearly parallels the juvenile court jurisdiction, which includes all children under eighteen years. The numerical variation of these groups is so slight that the census provides a satisfactory basis for a ratio.

NUMBER OF REAPPEARANCES DURING CURRENT AND PRECEDING YEARS OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT DURING YEAR 1922

	DELINQUENT		DEPENDENT		Totals	Percent		
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		1922	1921	1920
First time	661	163	172	286	1,282	77.94	71.4	76.
Second time	147	50	16	33	246	14.95	17.4	15.
Third time	79	11	-----	-----	90	5.47	5.7	5.3
Fourth time	18	1	-----	-----	19	1.16	2.9	1.4
Fifth time	4	-----	-----	-----	4	.24	1.4	1.3
Sixth time	1	-----	-----	-----	1	.06	.6	.8
Seventh time	3	-----	-----	-----	3	.18	.83	.2
Eighth time	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	.07	.2
Totals.....	913	225	188	319	1,645	100.00	100.00	100.00

OFFENSES AND CONDITIONS WHICH BROUGHT CHILDREN TO COURT DURING YEARS 1921-22

	FOR 1921			FOR 1922		
	Boys	Girls	Totals	Boys	Girls	Totals
CONDUCT						
Dishonesty	344	14	358	377	15	392
Vagrancy and runaways.....	100	15	115	118	38	156
Sex delinquency	31	105	136	32	76	108
Insubordination	77	64	141	59	69	128
Disorderliness	148	3	151	208	7	215
Truancy	41	30	71	58	20	78
Curfew violation	19	1	20	.....	.....	.....
Traffic violations	5	.....	5	61	.....	61
Total (conduct cases)	765	232	997	913	225	1,138
NEGLECT						
Inadequate moral guardianship.....	120	140	260	150	270	420
Abandonment	46	26	72	22	31	53
Feeble-mindedness .....	.....	.....	.....	16	15	31
Poverty	13	3	16	.....	3	3
Total (neglect cases)	179	169	348	188	319	507
Grand total.....	944	401	1,345	1,101	544	1,645

PARENTAL RELATION TABLE FOR THE YEAR 1922

	DELINQUENT		NEGLECTED		Total	Per Cent 1922	Per Cent 1921
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls			
Parents living together.	443	76	43	60	622	37.00	39.00
Parents not living together, due to death, divorce, separation or desertion	470	149	145	259	1,023	63.00	61.00
Total	913	225	188	319	1,645	100.00	100.00

DISPOSITION OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT DURING 1921 AND 1922

	Boys	Girls	Total 1921	Boys	Girls	Total 1922
Parents and children advised.....	608	79	687	649	117	766
Probationary supervision	122	119	241	122	158	280
Committed to individuals	35	28	63	39	39	78
Parental schools	71	43	114	104	42	146
State schools	13	6	19	19	10	29
State Custodial school	17	11	28	20	20	40
House of Good Shepherd .....	.....	21	21	.....	36	36
County hospital .....	.....	7	7	1	4	5
Sacred Heart Orphanage .....	.....	2	2	.....	5	5
Wash. Children's Home Society	28	16	44	21	26	47
Seattle Children's Home	5	3	8	7	7	14
Florence Crittenden Home .....	.....	6	6	.....	2	2
Ruth School for Girls .....	.....	27	27	.....	40	40
Everett Smith Cottage.....	.....	5	5	.....	10	10
Remanded for criminal prosecution	7	2	9	8	1	9
Sent to other jurisdictions	11	5	16	62	5	67
Absconded	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Continued subject to call.....	7	4	11	8	2	10
Briscoe School for Boys	1	.....	1	5	.....	5
Seattle Pacific College	1	1	2	2	1	3
Theodora Home	1	2	3	1	3	4
Ryther Home	3	1	4	.....	4	4
Detention Home .....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Women's Industrial Clinic .....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Motor vehicle license confiscated	1	.....	1	19	.....	19
Cause dismissed	12	11	23	9	5	14
Parkland Children's Home .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Orthopedic Hospital .....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
Seattle Council of Catholic Women .....	.....	.....	.....	4	4	8
Firlands Sanitarium .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Totals.....	944	401	1,345	1,101	544	1,645

COMPARATIVE POPULATION OF DETENTION HOME DURING NINE YEARS

Year	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922
Boys	575	610	724	694	935	970	980	755	828
Girls	455	426	423	311	440	451	502	509	623
Total.....	1,030	1,036	1,147	1,005	1,375	1,421	1,482	1,264	1,451
Average period of detention (days)	7	6	7	6	6.5	5.2	6.9	6.2	6.1

* No children received for six weeks in 1921 on account of smallpox quarantine.

TABLE OF AGES OF CHILDREN BROUGHT TO COURT
DURING 1921 AND 1922

	1921					1922				
	DELINQUENT NEGLECTED				Totals	DELINQUENT DEPENDENT				Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
1 yr. & under	-----	-----	24	17	41	-----	-----	10	32	42
2 years	-----	-----	17	10	27	-----	-----	16	18	34
3 years	-----	-----	8	6	14	-----	-----	7	4	11
4 years	-----	-----	11	3	14	-----	-----	9	17	26
5 years	-----	-----	11	8	19	-----	-----	17	10	27
6 years	-----	-----	4	10	14	-----	-----	14	11	25
7 years	-----	-----	10	9	19	-----	-----	13	17	30
8 years	5	-----	20	6	31	6	1	14	17	38
9 years	9	1	6	8	24	20	-----	15	16	51
10 years	31	3	9	16	59	28	1	23	27	79
11 years	37	6	14	9	56	51	2	12	18	83
12 years	53	14	9	9	85	62	2	13	23	100
13 years	76	21	10	7	114	83	14	6	27	130
14 years	138	31	10	15	194	153	36	5	21	215
15 years	174	37	11	17	229	179	66	7	28	280
16 years	140	54	2	9	225	170	55	6	20	251
17 years	102	58	3	10	173	158	37	1	13	209
18 years	-----	7	-----	-----	7	3	11	-----	-----	14
Totals	765	232	179	169	1,345	913	225	188	319	1,645

SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS LEADING TO COURT HEARINGS
DURING 1921 AND 1922

	1921	1922
Police Officers	718	927
School Attendance Officers	179	221
Probation Officers	68	96
Parents	143	142
Citizens	184	170
Children in own behalf	13	12
Washington Children's Home Society	16	18
Social Welfare League	24	34
Public Welfare	-----	25
Totals	1,345	1,645

WASHINGTON JUVENILE COURT LAW

SECTION 1. DEFINITION OF DEPENDENT CHILD. This act shall be known as the "Juvenile Court Law" and shall apply to all minor children under the age of eighteen years who are delinquent or dependent; and to any person or persons who are responsible for or contribute to the delinquency or dependency of such children.

For the purpose of this act the words "dependent child" shall mean any child under the age of eighteen years:

(1) Who is found begging, receiving or gathering alms, whether actually begging or under the pretext of selling or offering anything for sale; or

(2) Who is found in any street, road or public place for the purpose of so begging, gathering or receiving alms; or

(3) Who is a vagrant; or

(4) Who is found wandering and not having any home or any settled place of abode, or any proper guardianship, or any visible means of subsistence; or

(5) Who has no parent or guardian; or who has no parent or guardian willing to exercise, or capable of exercising, proper parental control; or

(6) Who is destitute; or

(7) Whose home, by reason of neglect, cruelty or depravity of its parents or either of them, or on the part of its guardian, or on the part of the person in whose custody or care it may be, or for any other reason, is an unfit place for such child; or

(8) Who frequents the company of reputed criminals, vagrants or prostitutes; or

(9) Who is found living or being in any house of prostitution or assignation; or

(10) Who habitually visits any billiard room or pool room, or any saloon, or place where spirituous, vinous or malt liquors are sold, bartered or given away; or

(11) Who persistently refuses to obey the reasonable and proper orders or directions of its parents or guardian; or

(12) Who is incorrigible; that is, who is beyond the control and power of its parents, guardian or custodian by reason of the vicious conduct or nature of said child; or

(13) Whose father, mother, guardian or custodian is an habitual drunkard, or do not properly provide for such child, and it appears that such child is destitute of a suitable home or of adequate means of obtaining an honest living, or who is in danger of being brought up to lead an idle, dissolute or immoral life; or where such child is without proper means of support; or

(14) Who is an habitual truant, as defined in the School Laws of the State of Washington; or

(15) Who uses intoxicating liquor as a beverage, or who uses tobacco in any form, or who uses opium, cocaine, morphine or other similar drug, without the direction of a competent physician; or

(16) Who from any cause is in danger of growing up to lead an idle, dissolute or immoral life; or

(17) Who wanders about in the night time without being on any lawful business or occupation; or

(18) Any child under the age of twelve years found peddling or selling any article, or singing or playing on any musical instrument for gain upon the public street, or giving any public entertainment, or who accompanies, or is used in aid of, any person so doing: Provided, That this act shall not prohibit the giving of entertainments by regularly organized schools or societies where twelve or more musical instruments are used.

DEFINITION OF DELINQUENT CHILD. The words "delinquent child" shall include any child under the age of eighteen years who violates any law of this state, or any ordinance of any town, city, county, or city and county of this state defining crime; or who habitually uses vile, obscene, vulgar, profane or indecent language, or is guilty of immoral conduct; or who is found in or about railroad yards or tracks; or who jumps on or off trains or cars; or who enters a car or engine without lawful authority.

For the purpose of this act only, all delinquent and dependent children within the state shall be considered wards of this state, and their persons shall be subject to the custody, care, guardianship and control of the court as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. JUVENILE DEPARTMENT OF SUPERIOR COURT. The superior courts in the several counties of this state shall have original jurisdiction in all cases coming within the terms of this act. In all trials under this act, any person interested therein may demand a jury trial, or the judge of his own motion may order a jury to try the case. In counties containing thirty thousand or more inhabitants the judges of the superior court shall, at such times as they may determine, designate one or more of their number whose duty it shall be to hear all case arising under this act. A special session to be designated as the "Juvenile Court Session" shall be provided for the hearing of such cases and the findings of the court shall be entered in a book or books kept for the purpose and known as the "Juvenile Record," and the court may, for convenience, be called the "Juvenile Court."

SEC. 3. APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES OF PROBATION OFFICERS. The court or judge designated as provided in section two of this act, shall appoint or designate one or more discreet persons of good character to serve as probation officers during the pleasure of the court, said probation officers to receive no compensation from the public treasury. In case a probation officer shall be appointed by any court, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the court, if practicable, to notify the said probation officer in advance when the child is to be brought before said court; it shall be the duty of said probation officers to make such investigation as may be required by the court. The probation officer or officers shall inquire into the antecedents, character, family history, environments and cause of dependency or delinquency of every alleged dependent or delinquent child brought before the juvenile court, and shall make his report in writing to the judge thereof; shall be present in order to represent the interests of the child when the

case is heard; shall furnish the court such information and assistance as the judge may require, and shall take such charge of the child before and after the trial as may be directed by the court. In counties containing thirty thousand or more inhabitants, when it shall appear that there is a necessity for such county officer, the court may appoint one or more persons to act as probation officers, and one or more persons who shall have charge of detention rooms or house of detention, all of whom shall be paid as compensation for their services, such sums as may be fixed by the board of county commissioners, and who shall be paid as other county officers are paid; all probation officers shall possess all the powers conferred upon sheriffs and police officers to serve process and make arrests for the violation of any state law or city ordinances relative to the care, custody and control of delinquent and dependent children.

SEC. 4. EXPENSES OF PROBATION OFFICERS. The probation officers, and assistant probation officers, and deputy probation officers in all counties of the state shall be allowed such necessary incidental expenses as may be authorized by the judge of the juvenile court, and the same shall be a charge upon the county in which the court appointing them has jurisdiction, and the expenses shall be paid out of the county treasury upon a written order of the judge of the juvenile court of said county directing the county auditor to draw his warrant upon the county treasurer for the specified amount of such expenses.

SEC. 5. HOW PETITIONS MAY BE FILED. Any person may file with the clerk of the superior court a petition showing that there is within the county, or residing within the county, a dependent or delinquent child, and praying that the superior court deal with such child as provided in this act: Provided, That in counties having paid probation officers, such officers shall, as far as possible, first determine if such petition is reasonably justifiable. Such petition shall be verified and shall contain a statement of facts constituting such dependency or delinquency, as defined in section one of this act, and the names and residence, if known to the petitioner, of the parents, guardian or custodian of such dependent or delinquent child. There shall be no fee for filing such petitions.

SEC. 6. SUMMONS TO PARENT OR GUARDIAN. Upon the filing of information, or the petition, the clerk of the court shall issue a summons requiring the person having custody or control of the child, or with whom the child may be, to appear with the child at a place and time stated in the summons, which time shall not be less than twenty-four hours after service. The parents of the child, if living, and their residence is known, or its legal guardian, if there be one, or if there is neither parent nor guardian, or if his or her residence is not known, then some relative, if there be one, and his residence is known, shall be notified of the proceedings; and in any case the judge shall appoint some suitable person or association to act in behalf of the child. If the person summoned as herein provided, shall fail without reasonable cause to appear and abide the order of the court, or bring the child, he shall be proceeded against as for contempt of court. In case the summons cannot be served or the parties served fail to obey the same, and in any case when it shall be made to appear to the court that said summons will be ineffectual, a warrant may issue on the order of the court, either against the parent or guardian or the person having custody of the child, or with whom the child may be, or against the

child itself. On return of the summons or other process, or as soon thereafter as may be, the court shall proceed to hear and dispose of the case in a summary manner. Pending the final disposition of the case, the child may be retained in the possession of the person having charge of same, or may be kept in some suitable place provided by the city or county authorities, or by any association having for one of its objects the care of delinquent and dependent children.

SEC. 7. PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS. In any case where it shall appear by the petition or verified statement, that the person standing in the position of natural or legal guardian of the person of any child, is a non-resident of this state, or that the name or place of residence or whereabouts of such person is unknown, as well as in all cases where, after due diligence, the officer has been unable to make service of the summons or notice provided for in section six of this act, the court may, by order, direct the clerk of the court to publish a notice four consecutive weeks in some newspaper printed in the county and having a general circulation therein. Such notice shall be directed to the parent, parents or other person claiming the right to the custody of the child, if their names are known, and if unknown, the phrase "To Whom It May Concern" shall be used to apply to, and be binding upon, any such persons whose names are unknown. The name of the court, the name of the child (or children if of one family), the date of the filing of the petition and the date of hearing, which shall not be less than twenty days from the date of the last publication, and the object of the proceeding in general terms, shall be set forth and the whole shall be subscribed by the clerk. There shall be filed with the clerk an affidavit showing due publication of the notice and the cost of publication shall be paid by the county at not to exceed the rate paid by the county for other legal notices. The publication of notice shall be deemed equivalent to personal service upon all persons, known or unknown, who have been designated as provided in this section.

SEC. 8. AUTHORITY OF COURT TO CHANGE CUSTODY AND PROVIDE SUPPORT. When any child under the age of eighteen years shall be found to be delinquent or dependent, within the meaning of this act, the court may, at any time, make an order committing the child to some suitable institution, or to the care of some reputable citizen of good moral character, or to the care of some training school or industrial school as provided by law, or to the care of some association willing to receive it, embracing in its objects the purpose of caring for or obtaining homes for dependent, neglected or delinquent children: Provided, Such order may be temporary or permanent in the discretion of the court, and may be revoked or modified as the circumstances of the case may hereafter require. In any case in which the court shall find the child dependent or delinquent, it may in the same or subsequent proceeding upon the parent or parents, guardian or other person having custody of said child, being duly summoned or voluntarily appearing, proceed to inquire into the ability of such persons or person to support the child or contribute to its support, and if the court shall find such person or persons able to support the child or contribute thereto, the court may enter such order or decree as shall be according to equity in the premises, and may enforce the same by execution, or in any way in which a court of equity may enforce its decrees. If it be found, however, that the parent or parents or guardian of a dependent or delinquent child is unable to pay the

whole expense of maintaining such child, and in cases where the child is committed to one of the institutions or associations above mentioned, the court may, in the order providing for the custody of such child, direct such additional amount as may be necessary to support such child to be paid from the county treasury of the county for the support of such person, the amount so ordered to be paid from the treasury of said county shall not exceed in the case of any one person, the sum of twelve dollars per month: Provided, further, That no order for the payment of all or part of the expense of support and maintenance of a dependent or delinquent child from the county treasury shall be effective for more than six months, unless a new order is secured at the expiration of that period.

SEC. 9. AUTHORITY TO ADOPT. In any case where the court shall award a child to the care of any association or individual, the child shall, unless otherwise ordered, become a ward and be subject to the guardianship of the association or individual to whose care it is committed; such association shall have authority, with the assent of the court, to place such child in a family home, either temporarily or for adoption. With the written consent of the parents, or other person having the right, under the laws of the state, to dispose of a dependent or delinquent child, the court may make an order or decree of adoption transferring to any suitable person or persons, willing to receive such child, all the rights of the parent or other guardian. The order of the court made upon such consent will be binding upon the child and its parents or guardian, or other person, the same as if such person were in court and consented thereto, whether made a party to the proceedings or not. The estate or property rights of any child shall not be affected nor subject to guardianship by the provisions of this act. The jurisdiction of the court shall continue over every child brought before the court, or committed pursuant to this act, and the court shall have power to order a change in the care or custody of such child, if at any time it is made to appear to the court that it would be for the best interests of the child to make such change.

SEC. 10. PROVISION FOR PRIVATE HEARING; SOCIAL RECORDS TO BE WITHHELD FROM PUBLIC; JURISDICTION OVER WARDS UNTIL TWENTY-ONE YEARS. The hearings may be conducted in any room provided for the purpose in the court house, or building where sessions of the court are held, and, as far as practicable, such cases shall not be heard in conjunction with other business of the court. At the hearing of any case involving a child, the court shall have power to exclude the general public from the room where the hearing is had, admitting thereto only such persons as may have a direct interest in the case. Any child may have a private hearing upon the question of its dependency or delinquency, and upon the request of said child, or either of its parents, or guardian, or custodian, such hearing may be had privately. An order of court adjudging a child dependent or delinquent under the provisions of this act shall in no case be deemed a conviction of crime. The probation officer's investigation record and report in each case shall be withheld from public inspection, but such records shall be kept open to the inspection of such child, its parents, or guardian, or its attorney, and to such other persons as may secure a special order of the court therefor. Such records shall be kept as unofficial records of the court and shall be destroyed at any time in the discretion of any judge presiding in said court on or before the child shall arrive at the age of twenty-one

years. After acquiring jurisdiction over any child, the court shall have power to make an order with respect to the custody, care or control of such child, or any order which, in the judgment of the court, would promote the child's health and welfare. In any case of a delinquent or dependent child, the court may continue the hearing from time to time, and may commit the child to the care or guardianship of a probation officer, duly appointed by the court, and may allow such child to remain at its home subject to the visitation of the probation officer, such child to report to the probation officer as often as may be required and subject to being returned to the court for further proceedings whenever such action may appear to be necessary, or the court may commit the child to the care and guardianship of the probation officer, to be placed in a suitable family home, in case provision is made by voluntary contribution or otherwise for the payment of the board of the child until a suitable provision may be made for the child in a home without such payment, or the court may commit the child to a suitable institution for the care of delinquent or dependent children. In no case shall a child be committed beyond the age of twenty-one years. A child committed to such institution shall be subject to the control thereof, and the said institution shall have the power to parole such child, on such conditions as may be prescribed, and the court shall have the power to discharge such child from custody whenever, in the judgment of the court, his or her reformation shall be complete; or the court may commit the child to the care and custody of some association that will receive such child, embracing in its objects the care of neglected, delinquent and dependent children.

SEC. 11. CHILDREN UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE MAY NOT BE CONFINED IN JAIL. No court or magistrate shall commit a child under sixteen years of age to a jail, common lock-up or police station; but if such child is unable to give bail, it may be committed to the care of the sheriff, police officer or probation officer, who shall keep such child in some suitable place or house or school of detention provided by the city or county, outside the enclosure of any jail or police station, or in the care of any association willing to receive it and having as one of its objects the care of delinquent, dependent or neglected children. When any child shall be sentenced to confinement in any institution to which adult convicts are sentenced, it shall be unlawful to confine such child in the same building with such adult convicts, or to bring such child into any yard or building in which such adult convicts may be present.

SEC. 12. TRANSFER OF JUVENILES BETWEEN JUSTICE COURT, AND JUVENILE AND CRIMINAL DEPARTMENTS OF SUPERIOR COURT. When, in any county where a court is held as provided in section two of this act, a child under the age of eighteen years is arrested with or without warrant, such child may, instead of being taken before a justice of the peace or police magistrate, be taken directly before such court; or if the child is taken before a justice of the peace or police magistrate, it shall be the duty of such justice of the peace or police magistrate to transfer the case to such court, and the officer having the child in charge shall take the child before that court, and in any such case, the court may proceed to hear and dispose of the case in the same manner as if the child had been brought before the court upon petition as hereinbefore provided. In any such case the court shall require notice to be given and investigation to be made as in other

cases under this act, and may adjourn the hearing from time to time for such purpose. If, upon investigation, it shall appear that a child has been arrested upon the charge of having committed a crime, the court, in its discretion, may order such child to be turned over to the proper officers for trial under the provisions of the criminal code.

SEC. 13. AUTHORITY TO MAINTAIN DETENTION HOMES. Counties containing more than fifty thousand inhabitants shall, and counties containing a lesser number of inhabitants may, provide and maintain at public expense, a detention room or house of detention, separated or removed from any jail, or police station, to be in charge of a matron, or other person of good character, wherein all children within the provisions of this act shall, when necessary, be sheltered.

SEC. 14. LAW TO BE LIBERALLY CONSTRUED. This act shall be liberally construed to the end that its purpose may be carried out, to-wit: that the care, custody and discipline of a dependent or delinquent child as defined in this act shall approximate as nearly as may be that which should be given by its parents, and in all cases where it can be properly done, the dependent or delinquent child as defined in this act shall be placed in an approved family and may become a member of the family, by adoption or otherwise. No dependent or delinquent child as defined in this act shall be taken from the custody of its parent, parents or legal guardian, without the consent of such parent, parents or guardian, unless the court shall find such parent, parents or guardian is incapable or has failed or neglected to provide proper maintenance, training and education for said child; or unless said child has been tried on probation in said custody, and has failed to reform; or unless the court shall find that the welfare of said child requires that his custody shall be taken from said parent or guardian. In this act, the words used in any gender shall include all other genders, and the words "county" shall include "city and county," the plural shall include the singular and singular shall include the plural.

SEC. 15. AUTHORITY OF COURT TO MODIFY ORDER. Any order made by the court in the case of a dependent or delinquent child may at any time be changed, modified or set aside, as to the judge may seem meet and proper.

SEC. 16. NO FEES FOR JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS. No fees shall be charged or collected by any officer or other person for filing petition, serving summons, or other process under this act.

SEC. 17. LIABILITY FOR CONTRIBUTING TO DEPENDENCY OR DELINQUENCY OF CHILD. In all cases where any child shall be dependent or delinquent under the terms of this act, the parent or parents, legal guardian or person having custody of such child, or any other person who shall by any act or omission, encourage, cause or contribute to the dependency or delinquency of such child shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment, and the juvenile court shall have jurisdiction of all such misdemeanors: Provided, however, That the court may suspend sentence for a violation of the provisions of this section and impose conditions as to conduct in the premises of any person so convicted, and make such suspension depend upon the fulfillment by such person of such conditions, and, in

case of the breach of such conditions, or any thereof, the court may impose sentence as though there had been no such suspension. The court may also, as a condition of such suspension, require a bond in such sum as the court may designate, to be approved by the judge requiring same, to secure the performance by such persons on the conditions imposed by the court on such suspension. Such bond shall, by its terms, be made payable to the State of Washington, and any moneys received for a breach thereof shall be paid into the county treasury.

SEC. 18. AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF VISITORS. In each county the judge presiding over the juvenile court sessions, as defined in this act, may appoint a board of four reputable citizens, who shall serve without compensation, to constitute a board of visitation, whose duty it shall be to visit as often as twice a year all institutions, societies and associations within the county receiving children under this act, as well as all homes for children or other places where individuals are holding themselves out as caretakers of children; also to visit other institutions, societies and associations within the state receiving and caring for children, whenever requested to do so by the judge of the juvenile court: Provided, The actual expenses of such board may be paid by the county commissioners when members thereof are requested to visit institutions outside of the county seat, and no member of the board shall be required to visit any institutions outside the county unless his actual traveling expenses shall be paid as aforesaid. Such visits shall be made by not less than two members of the board, who shall go together or make a joint report. The board of visitors shall report to the court from time to time the condition of children received by or in charge of such institutions, societies, associations or individuals. It shall be the duty of every institution, society or association, or individual receiving and caring for children, to permit any member or members of the board of visitation to visit and inspect such institution, society, association or home where such child is kept, in all its departments, so that a full report may be made to the court. (Chap. 160, Laws 1913.)

MOTHERS' PENSION DEPARTMENT

King County, Washington
1922

The Mothers' Pension Laws, derived from the various Poor Man's Acts and Child Welfare Boards, are the direct outgrowth of a National Conference on Child Welfare in Washington in 1907, when Theodore Roosevelt advocated the needs of better and more wholesome home life, when he made his famous statement, "Unless this country is made a good place for all of us to live in, it won't be a good place for any of us to live in. Forty-one states, Alaska and Hawaii, have adopted these mothers' aid acts and have proven their value in keeping families intact and in assisting many mothers in the proper upbringing of their children.

The Legislature of the State of Washington passed a Mothers' Pension Act in 1913, which provided for mothers, widowed, deserted, divorced, or whose husbands were incapacitated or confined in penal institutions. This Act was repealed in 1915 and a new law framed lengthening the prerequisite time of residence in the state and excluding deserted and divorced mothers. In 1919 an amendment was passed granting aid to all destitute mothers who have children under the age of fifteen years.

Our report for last year contained the copy of the Washington State Law for Mothers' Pensions and also the workings of our Department. The *modus operandi* of our work has remained the same for this year, and many questions and problems of interest have presented themselves to us upon which we are submitting a brief report at this time. The personnel of our staff is the same except that Miss Stout was appointed to succeed Miss Lewis as stenographer.

The number of mothers who apply for pension aid is steadily increasing, probably due to the fact that the Department is becoming

ing better known. This year has been more normal than the two preceding years, no doubt due to the improved economic conditions in our city. Any mother or older children who have wanted work have been able to obtain it. We have had splendid co-operation with the local businesses, factories, unions, etc., so that our families have, for the most part, been adequately cared for.

The maximum allowance of \$15 for a mother and one child has been widely discussed during the last year. Many states grant considerably more than that, and several require that the mother remain in the home all the time. We have had 402 mothers receiving aid during 1922, and our close supervision permits us to say that in the majority of the cases the maximum allowance is sufficient to supplement the income in the family. There is only a small per cent of our families where there is difficulty in supplying that aid through local organizations and clubs or soliciting aid from relatives who might otherwise feel no responsibility. It is the expression of many women who have never worked before that it is better for them to get out of the home for a few hours every day, because it keeps them from feeling entirely dependent and also prevents them from brooding over their troubles during the idle hours. The growing tendency for housewives to enter the business world has had a broadening effect on the mothers. The mothers generally realize that the aid is not primarily for them, but know that the state is interested in her only as a guardian for her children, and they appreciate the assistance and are anxious to do their part. Some states grant an emergency relief appropriation which in our estimation would solve the question of the increase of the maximum allowance and would eliminate the necessity of asking additional aid from the welfare organizations for our few destitute but deserving families.

The question of residence in the state and county has confronted us many times. Some states require less than three years residence in the state and one in the country, and a shorter residence requirement has been advocated for Washington, but as yet

we believe that the present residence requirement is practicable and that other welfare organizations may assist families until they have completed their residence.

The property holdings of our mothers have caused considerable comment. There are those who believe that any mother who has property valued over \$1,000 should not be granted an allowance. We know that any house and lot of the value of \$1,000 in Seattle can not be much more than a shack. Many mothers apply for aid whose husbands had started to buy comfortable homes or have just finished paying for them, amounting to \$2,000 or \$2,500, and it is our policy to encourage them to keep such a home, realizing that they may be better able to re-establish their normal home life and be more encouraged if they are permitted to retain their present home.

When a mother applies for pension after she has received insurance or has several hundred dollars, we do not believe she can be termed a "destitute mother," and therefore is not entitled to state assistance. If she has no home or has some debts, she is advised to invest her money or pay off her indebtedness, limiting her funds to not more than \$200 or \$300. It is not the Court's policy to grant an allowance when the family is already receiving an industrial insurance, but in some few cases a small allowance is given temporarily, as in the case of illness. Occasionally we are asked to supplement aid to families where the father has deserted and intermittently sends small sums of money. The Court grants some help in the hopes that the father will see the error of his ways, rather than antagonize him by forcing payment, which might result in his final disappearance. The Court also is interested in supplementing the aid of older sons and daughters, who are making an effort to assist their mother in caring for the younger children in order that their spirits may not be broken and that they may not become discouraged so young in life.

In the last few years we have permitted families to live in the Theodora Home and allowances have been granted, but they are

expected and urged to establish homes of their own as soon as possible.

There is only a small per cent of our mothers who are not citizens of the United States. As our aid is for the children, there can be no discrimination between mothers on that account, but we urge and encourage the mothers who are not citizens to become naturalized as soon as possible. We have not been very successful, however, in this and have suggested that merely a temporary allowance might be granted until they show some desire to take out citizenship papers.

We are constantly being asked to accept cases who live in the "close-in district" of our city. Since we have so thoroughly realized that the community life in the outlying district is much more conducive to better living, we require that our families live away from the heart of the city. A school teacher in one of the down town schools reports that she had had 99 children enrolled since September this year, and now (March) has but nine of the original number. This shows the fluctuating population and general instability of the family life in the down town district.

We are requiring our mothers to keep an account book of their income and of the expenditures, so that we may be assured that the family budget is insufficient without our aid; also so that we may determine whether the income is wisely and economically expended. We have some few mothers who are not familiar with the need of providing proper food for growing children, and we plan to keep a check on them through their account books.

Some states have a Domestic Educator on their staff, who is qualified to go into the homes and instruct mothers in the fundamentals of housekeeping and the care of children. We feel the need of such an assistant almost daily in our work, as our two field visitors are unable to do more than make their regular visits. Many of our mothers would appreciate and make good use of an educator, and we are hoping that we may have such an assistant in the near future.

Out of our 402 families and 1,075 children, but eight families have appeared before the Juvenile Court, and we are reasonably sure that if it had not been for the financial and moral support in the homes that many more children might have become delinquent. We have four families on our pension list who came to us through the Juvenile Court, having been brought in as dependents, and each of these families is proving worthy of this assistance.

During the past year, of 262 cases investigated, but 171 were granted an allowance. The allowances of 33 families were increased and 39 were decreased during 1922. A record of the revocations is given below.

The Juvenile Court "Spirit Fund," which consists of cash donations from friends, has been re-opened this past year and through it we have been able to supply many of our families with a little "extra" and, in several cases, have relieved some conditions which might otherwise have been serious. About \$200 was received from philanthropic friends, and we are submitting a list of our expenditures.

Milk for 1 month for mother and 8 children.....	\$ 12.00
50 pounds of nuts for our Christmas box	10.00
Board for child for 1 week	2.00
Installment on assessment	3.07
Half-soling 3 pair of shoes	5.00
One-half ton briquets, delivered before mother came home from the County Hospital	6.75
Shoes and hat for business college girl	9.35
One ton of coal for family—father totally incapacitated, mentally and physically	10.85
Groceries	1.95
Half of 1922 taxes for mother who had saved enough, but took ill....	5.00
Cleaning dress given to school girl	2.50
One load of wood for mother and 6 children	5.50
One ton of coal for mother and 8 children	10.35
One ton of lump coal	10.70
Sweater and underwear for school children	10.00
Groceries for mother who had been ill	5.00
Groceries for mother and 2 children	5.00
Groceries	1.00
Repairing false teeth	5.00
Two pair of shoes	5.00
One ton of coal	10.80

Groceries	5.46
One ton of coal	15.95
One serge dress for school girl	5.00
One ton of coal	9.55
One load of wood	5.00
Special shoe for crippled child	4.21
Payment on rent	5.00
Two pair of shoes for school girls	5.00
Repairing victrola for family in the country	2.00

The Christmas season of 1922 was probably one of our happiest. Beginning early in December our Christmas room began receiving donations in fruit, candy, canned goods, used toys, books, etc., and many of our families had one of their very best Christmas times.

We are exceedingly grateful to the hospitals, doctors, attorneys, churches, clubs, organizations and friends, who have been interested and who have contributed to our families, and in their behalf we wish to express our sincere thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

LENA E. HEMPHILL.

Statistics for MOTHERS' PENSION DEPARTMENT

REASONS FOR ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

	1922
Fathers dead	130
Mothers divorced	125
Mothers deserted	96
Fathers incapacitated at home	16
Fathers incapacitated at hospitals	22
Fathers in penal institutions	13
TOTAL	402

ALLOWANCES

	1922
\$ 7.50	1
10.00	22
12.50	3
15.00	110
20.00	144
25.00	66
30.00	31
35.00	18
40.00	5
45.00	2
	402

INCOME OF MOTHERS

	1922
Boarders	12
Chambermaid	8
Cooks	4
Clerks	30
Day work	32
Demonstration	1
Delicatessen work	4
Bakery (at home)	2
Factory	23
Farm	14
Grocery	9
Housekeeping rooms	17
Janitress	25
Candy factory	3

Stenographers	4
Millinery	3
Caring for children	8
Elevator operators	4
Laundry work	26
Matrons	3
Music teachers	2
Nurses	2
Needle work	10
Photography	2
Printing shop	2
Restaurant	19
Roomers	18
Seamstress	18
Telephone operator	4
Dye works	1
Beauty parlor work	2
Cleaning cars	6
Shoe repair shop	1
No work outside the home	83
TOTAL	402

NATIONALITY OF MOTHERS

	1922
American	191
American Negress	2
Austrian	11
Belgian	1
Canadian	15
Danish	6
English	8
Finnish	15
French	3
German	2
Irish	8
Italian	28
Jewish	10
Japanese	2
Lithuanian	1
Norwegian	40
Polish	6
Russian	4
Scotch	4
Swedish	30
Sephardic Jews	4
Syrian	2
Welsh	2
Uncertain	5
TOTAL	402

RELIGION

	1922
Adventist	4
Apostolic	7
Baptist	29
Catholic	66
Christian	15
Christian Science	55
Congregational	30
Church of the Nazarene	8
Church of Christ	1
Church of God	1
Episcopal	15
Friends Church	4
Hebrew (Jewish)	18
Latter Day Saints	2
Lutheran	45
Methodist	17
Pentecostal Faith	12
Presbyterian	33
Salvation Army	6
Unitarian	3
United Brethren	2
Unity	1
Miscellaneous	8
No Faith	20
TOTALS	402

HOMES

	1922
Rented	150
Owned, free of debt	60
Free rent	13
With relatives	40
Mortgaged	41
Buying on contract	98
TOTALS	402

REASONS FOR REVOCATIONS

	1922
Marriage	21
Self supporting	21
Left jurisdiction of Court	8
Whereabouts unknown	1
Disregarded requirements	5
Deaths	3
Fathers returned to home	2

Fathers released from penal institutions.....	1
Children placed in parental school	3
Mothers received insurance by death of husband.....	1
Children reached the age of 15 years.....	5
Mothers sent to Firlands	1
Mothers committed to insane institutions	2
TOTAL.....	74

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Year 1920

	Appropriation	Expended
Relief fund	\$55,000.00	\$51,315.00
Salaries	7,540.00	7,752.65
Records and supplies	50.00	259.22
Postage, telephone and telegraph.....	100.00	53.83
Transportation	400.00	603.01
TOTALS.....	\$63,090.00	\$59,983.71

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Year 1921

	Appropriation	Expended
Relief fund	\$55,000.00	\$68,550.00
Salaries	7,640.00	8,585.00
Records and supplies	200.00	231.63
Postage and telephone	50.00	31.00
Transportation	400.00	599.24
TOTALS.....	\$63,290.00	\$77,996.87

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Year 1922

	Appropriation	Expended
Relief fund	\$60,000.00	\$89,900.00
Salaries	7,540.00	8,762.50
Records and supplies	200.00	142.11
Postage	50.00	44.00
Transportation	400.00	645.71
TOTALS.....	\$68,190.00	\$99,494.32